GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4331
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Schemes
Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes implemented for development of rivers and Ganga Rejuvenation by the Government; and
(b) whether the Government has succeeded in implementing such schemes and if so, the extent thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) The Government has launched Namami Gange programme for pollution abatement and conservation of river Ganga and its tributaries under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MOWR, RD & GR). The primary focus of the program is on pollution abatement through construction of Sewage Treatment Plants, Common Effluent Treatment Plants, Ghat Development, Solid Waste Management and other activities to stop pollutants from reaching river Ganga. Besides this, the other activities like Bio-diversity conservation, large scale afforestation, making villages along river Ganga Open Defecation Free (ODF), research studies and public outreach programmes have also been envisaged.
Pollution abatement measures for rivers other than Ganga and its tributaries are implemented under National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) by Ministry of Environment , Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC). The works undertaken are interception & diversion, sewage treatment plant, low-cost sanitation, river front development, crematoria and washerman"s platform
As on 30th June 2016,97 projects have been sanctioned under Namami Gange programme (including the existing projects sanctioned under NGRBA programme) in 53 towns at an estimated project cost of Rs 8588.21 crore. Out of these, 12 projects are sanctioned exclusively under new components of Namami
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Gange programme at a sanctioned cost of Rs 351.42 crore. Out of these 97 projects, 32 projects have been completed. The Government recently launched 231 entry level and medium term projects under Namami Gange on 7th July, 2016. These projects include Ghat Development, Crematoria, setting up of Sewage treatment plants, afforestation etc.
Apart from above, "River Surface and Ghat Cleaning" programme using thrash skimmer has been taken up initially in 6 cities namely Mathura-Vrindavan, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna and New Delhi under the Namami Gange programme. Also, 5 central public sector units namely WAPCOS, EIL, NBCC, NPCC and EPIL have been recently engaged to carry out of work on condition Assessment & Feasibility Study and Entry level activities under under Namami Gange Programme in their respective river stretches in Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. 59 towns have been surveyed so far and 27 pre-feasibility reports prepared and received. The other activities taken up under entry level activities include repair and modernization of Ghats, provision of public amenities, village level drain (VLD) treatment, repair and modernization of crematoria etc. 1242 ghats, 369 crematoria and 411 VLDs identified so far from the surveys and out of these 191 Ghats and 64 Crematoriums are recommended by ESC till date so far.
Conservation of rivers is a continuous and ongoing process. The Government has achieved partial success in implementing these schemes. However, for complete cleaning of any river, the entire stretch of the river basin has to be treated so that no untreated waste water discharges into the river or water body.
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